

Reflection Reverse 2 Spring 1997 Spring 2 Spring 2

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A reminder of the year's events that impacted us the

Pages 6-18

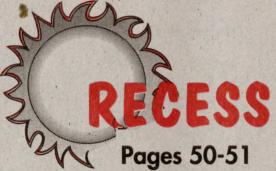
most. These stories cover not only individual triumphs and struggles, but also explain what they mean to all of us.

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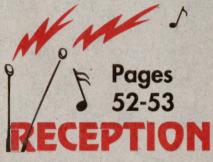
A quick glance at the past year and what happened around campus with clubs, organizations, faculty and students. See if you or your friends dot the pages.



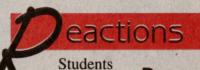
No one can study all the time can they? See you and your friends playing on the UNO 'swing-set.'

REFLEX

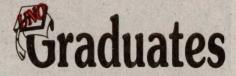
Pages 32-49 Read about UNO students 'flexing' their muscles and beating the competition in every sport from football to softball.



Tune the station to this page for tops in music, movies and Omaha concerts.



speak out about what they feel were the most important events during the 1996-1997 school year.



Congrats to all those who actually made it! See their names and pictures of graduation ceremonies.

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Reflections, the Gateway's Year in Review, is published by the UNO student publication, the Gateway, and is funded by advertising revenue. Inquiries or complaints should be directed to the editor; advertising inquiries should be directed to the advertising manager.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha or the NU Board of Regents.

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Weber Ends 20-Year Career as Chancellor

UNO Looks for Replacement

By Renee Novy and Michelle Wells

UNO will lose one of its greatest assets when Chancellor Del Weber leaves on June 30. Weber announced his retirement in a Jan. 15 press conference, ending a 20-year career that began back in 1977.

"I have truly enjoyed watching this institution grow and mature into what I believe is a first-class metropolitan university," Weber said. "I just hope that I brought a sense of integrity to the position [of chancellor], a willingness to listen to people, and an opportunity for people to participate in the process of making UNO a better institution."

Weber began his term in September 1977 and has served as chancellor longer than any of his predecessors. He surpassed even the 18-year term served by Dr. Daniel Jenkins, the founding president of what is now UNO (1909-1927).

UNO has seen many improvements and additions since 1977. These include the Durham Science Center, the bell tower, renovation of Arts and Sciences Hall, construction of the Fine Arts Building and cre-



Chancellor Del Weber works hard on university paperwork. Weber has been chancellor 20 years and announced his June retirement Jan. 15. (photo by Tony Miceli)

ation of a doctoral program. Other achievements in the works are the upcoming creation of the College of Information Sciences and Technology (IS&T) and the prospect of dormitories on campus.

But Weber refuses to take full credit for these accomplishments. "These are not my achievements," he said. "Rather, they represent the efforts of talented and committed individuals working together for our students, this community and this state."

UNO now faces the difficult challenge of replacing Weber. Members of the chancellor selection committee include UNO faculty, students and community leaders.

Before Weber leaves, though, he has many projects left on his agenda. One of the biggest projects is the construction of dormitories on campus. "I fully intend, by the time

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Work Begins On New South Campus



An artist rendering of the completed IST&E building at the Aksarben land purchased by FDR. The drawing was on display in the Student Center. (photo by Chad Greene)

By Brian J. Todd

Ground was broken this March for the building which will house UNO's first new college in 20 years, the Information Science and Technology Institute (IS&T).

The site of the new building, UNO's new south campus, was made possible when First Data Resources (FDR) of Omaha purchased 140 acres of land from Douglas County. The land was previously part of the Aksarben race track. FDR, upon purchasing the land, donated half of the 140 acre tract to the University of Nebraska.

The Omaha-based telemarketing company will build its own new office park next to the IS&T building. FDR hopes to become a partner with UNO on research, education and internships.

The battle to bring IS&T to

UNO began when Omaha business leaders told University of Nebraska officials that there was a need for a new engineering and technology college to meet the needs of the Omaha business community.

"I'm glad to have it over," said outgoing UNO chancellor Del Weber upon final approval of the sale by the Douglas County Board, "and happy for the state of Nebraska because I think it's such a wonderful project."

The future of the project was not always so certain. Proponents of live racing in Omaha tried to block the sale of the property in an attempt to bring horse racing back to Omaha. Meanwhile, FDR, pointing to its need to begin site preparations and construction as soon as possible, put a year-end deadline on county ap-

proval of the sale.

The board waited until the 11th hour, passing the measure on December 31 by a 6-1 margin.

The new building is to be opened by the fall semester in 1999 and will house laboratory, research, office and computer lab space.

The additional land on the new South Campus will give UNO, which has been landlocked by Elmwood Park and residential neighborhoods for several decades, room to grow in the future.

"I would not have recommended going to Aksarben if it was just for IS&T," Weber said.

Weber suggested that the additional space could be used for other building projects such as dormitories, athletic practice fields or other classroom buildings.

Search Continues for Professor's Rapist

By Veronica Burgher and Marylynne Ziemba

"People can't just go around thinking it only happens to people they don't know, because this time it happened to someone they do know."

-Heidi Hessi UNO professor

March 5, 1997 was a

date that changed UNO Professor Heidi Hess for the rest of her life. Hess stayed after class that night to talk with a friend in Connecticut over the Internet when she was attacked from behind and raped in a computer room on the third floor of the Arts and Sciences Building.

A quick series of thumps was the only sound Hess heard before the attacker was right behind her. "It happened so fast that I didn't even have time to turn around." Once the attack was over, Hess returned to the computer and told her on-line friend to call the police.

Fortunately, Hess's friend was waiting for her on the Internet. The woman, who asked to remain anonymous, is a former 911 operator and had access to nationwide emergency numbers. The Connecticut woman was able to contact UNO Campus Security who could reach Hess faster than the local police.

The woman said it was second nature for her to remain calm during such an event, but it was hard since it was someone she knew and cared about.

After campus security arrived, Hess had them call the Omaha Police immediately. "I had an idea who it may have been and I shared it with the police," she said.

No one has been charged in connection with the incident. "We've eliminated some of the people she [Hess] indicated originally. We eliminated both of them," said Lt. Charles Benak of the Omaha Police Department's sexual assault unit.

Benak said the investigation is still active. "We're talking to people that have called in with information. In fact, we received a call from a UNO student who may have seen the individual [who committed the rape] in the building that evening," he said.

Hess has decided not to return to her classes this semester. "I am just too afraid of being on campus right now," she said a few days after her attack.

Her classes, in both the business and communication departments, were informed of her decision and reassigned professors. "The classes will continue and will follow the schedule that the students were originally given. There will be as little disruption to the students as possible," said Deborah Smith-Howell, chairperson of the commu-

nication department.

For the rest of the university, UNO Chancellor Del Weber issued a university-wide memo denouncing

the "despicable incident." He ended the memo by restating the university's commitment to safety. "I believe that we have a safe campus and I want to assure you that we will take measures necessary for the protection of our employees, students and campus visitors," he said in the memo.

Hess has been a part-time professor for UNO for nearly five years. She has been on campus for nearly 10 years, starting as a student in 1987. She earned her bachelor's degree in 1992 and her master's in May 1995. Besides being a student, Hess held several leadership positions on campus including *Gateway* editorin-chief from 1991-1992, a member of the Student Senate and president of the Gay and Lesbian Student Organization.

Hess said she is making her name public because people need to realize that rape can happen anywhere to anyone. "A crime like this needs to have a face attached," she said. "People can't just go around thinking it only happens to people they don't know, because this time it happened to someone they do know."

Weber Ends Career as Chancellor

Continued from page 6

I leave, to have dormitories in shape or underway," he said. "I simply want a decision made that we will break ground on a certain date. Residential living does make a difference in retention of students."

Although he will leave the chancellor position, Weber will not be leaving UNO. He will assist with the University of Nebraska Foundation \$250 million campaign fund.

Weber will remain a driving force on the UNO campus. "I am not leaving life — I am simply retiring as chancellor," he said. "Just because I'm leaving doesn't mean I can't come back on campus for all sorts of things."

Weber said that leaving UNO will be one of the hardest things he

has ever had to do. "This is like family. There are people on this cam-

pus that I've never seen, but there are more I do know than not."

"This is a new chapter in my life and I don't know what is going to happen. Obviously, I'm not going to

build another 20-year career, but I hope what I do is as significant as this." Weber is looking toward the future. "There is a tomorrow out there, a future, and I will be pursuing that."

"Just because I'm leaving doesn't mean I can't come back on campus for all sorts of things."

-Chancellor Del Weber

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Winterboer Victor of Three-Man Race in Student/Regent Elections

By Pat Justice

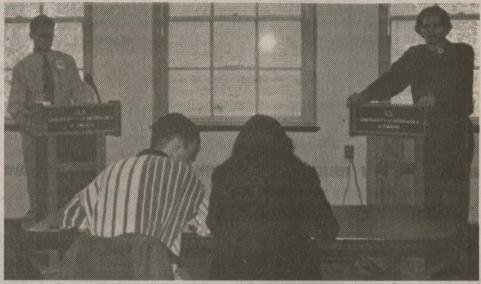
Three intelligent, talented candidates vied for Student President/Regent this year. Jason Winterboer, former Student Programming Office (SPO) director, was the ultimate victor.

However, this election was far from routine. The elections were extended by a month due to a run-off between the top two candidates. Allegations of improper campaign conduct and behavior were also made during the campaign.

The candidates for Student President/Regent were Danielle Jensen, broadcasting major and former Student Senate speaker; William Wade (Wally) Waller, fine arts major and former UNO football player; and Winterboer, business administration major.

All three candidates campaigned hard for this office, getting their ideas and viewpoints presented to their constituents. Major issues were student participation, dormitories and parking.

Two debates were held. The first was the annual debate sponsored by the *Gateway*. This debate was chaired by editor, Marylynne Ziemba. Questioners were Brian



Student/Regent candidates Jason Winterboer and Wally Waller face off during a debate sponsored by Student Government. (photo by Chad Greene)

Todd, news editor; Karalee Ziemba, copy editor, and Renee Novy, staff reporter.

The major issues discussed in the debate were how to increase student involvement on campus, parking issues, and student services such as dormitories.

Both Jensen and Winterboer drew on their considerable experience and leadership roles on campus in framing their answers. Waller portrayed himself as somewhat of an outsider at UNO, with much of his experience coming from prior college experience and his work in the consulting field.

The debates were marred by two separate events, both involving

allegations of misconduct by Waller.

In the first incident, an unsigned letter allegedly written by one of the candidates was delivered to the *Gateway* by then Chief Administrative Officer of the Student Senate, Katie Brower. In this letter, the accusation was made that Waller had interrupted meetings on campus and spoken to groups uninvited.

Formal charges of this alleged misconduct were never made to the election board. The *Gateway* did report on the contents of the letter and made attempts to verify authorship of the letter and its veracity.

In response, Waller began dis-

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Winterboer Wins Student/Regent Elections

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tributing copies of the *Gateway* to students in the Milo Bail Student Center, charging the *Gateway* with trying to alter the outcome of the election.

Just before the debate began, Waller approached

Novy, and she later charged him with sexual harassment. These charges were heard in a closed-door meeting conducted by the office of Student Affairs.

In the first election, Winterboer received 452 votes, Waller, 411 votes and Jensen, 232 votes.

The second debate, sponsored by Student Government, was held just prior to the run-off election between Waller and Winterboer. It was sparsely attended, but it did provide one last opportunity for the candidates to make clear their ideas and leadership styles.

The Nov. 12-13 run-off election gave Winterboer 495 votes and Waller 327 votes.

In the end Winterboer was the victor in the election. Outgoing president Craig Richter made the victory announcement to Winterboer and his supporters who gathered for a celebration at Chammps Americana in Oakview Mall.

Results of 1996 Student-Regent Elections

First Election:

Winterboer - 452 votes
Waller - 411 votes

Jensen - 232 votes

Second Election:

Winterboer - 495 votes Waller - 327 votes



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1996 Chancellor's Award for Fraternal Excellence Xi Achievement

Hanett Hitchcock Holtman Award

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Chapter Total

Financial Efficiency

Social Events

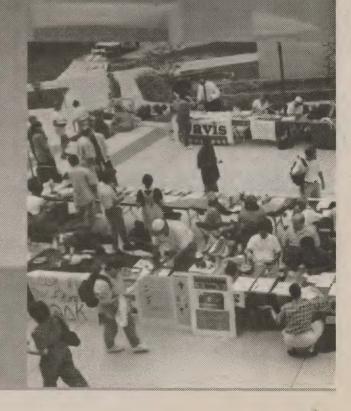
Formal
Date Parties
Exchanges



The first week of classes introduced students to new teachers. new classes and a new student center. To kick off the newly remodeled building, a week of activities were planned for students, faculty and alumni. The celebration began on Monday, Aug. 26 with "Kick Off Day." Festivities included music, eating contests, decorations, pictures of the construction and guided tours. The week ended with a day for faculty and staff, with a disc jockey playing '60s music, free food and prizes.

The \$8.62 million dollar renovation began in 1994 and took two years to complete. The project was plagued with weather problems both in the spring and winter. The student center gained an extra 30,000 square feet of space. The additional area helps house three new lounges, a larger bookstore, a fireplace, new conference rooms and a food court.

Week-Long
Celebration
Kicks Off New
Student Center





Enjoying the late August summer heat, students mill around as the jazz band prepares to play during the festivities surrounding the opening of the remodelled student center. (photo by Chad Greene)



The student center opening was not just all fun and gomes.
Aug. 29 was named "Students"
Day" and included an organization fair with booths set up by UNO's many campus groups and activities.
[photo by Matt Westerramp]

Dean Gouttierre Travels to Afghanistan for United Nations Special Peace Mission

By Renee Novy and Michelle Wells

Thomas Gouttierre, dean of International Studies and Programs at UNO and UNMC, had more than grading papers and tardy students to worry about this semester. Nominated by the State Department, Gouttierre served as a senior political affairs officer for the United Nations special political mission in Afghanistan.

Members of the team, led by Dr. Norbert Holl of Germany, were very energetic and devoted to the mission Gouttierre said. "Everyone on the mission is highly committed to peace in Afghanistan and is highly knowledgeable about their subject. They believed deeply in the need for the mission and under far from ideal conditions."

He spent most of his time meeting with diplomats from other countries, or gathering information on the groups involved in the war and determining their response to proposed peace meetings. The team met with leaders and representatives of the groups fighting. These meetings took Gouttierre to all parts of Afghanistan and Pakistan, including the cities of Kabul, Qandahaar and Baamiyaan. "Our intent was to get each faction to agree to participate in peace talks," he explained.



The many meetings kept Gouttierre and his colleagues extremely busy. "As political affairs officer, I had meetings seemingly from sunrise to midnight with Afghans seeking to talk to the U.N. mission about what they felt was needed to bring an end to the fighting."

What seemed to impact Gouttierre the most was the Afghan people and the destruction in their everyday lives. "People in Kabul are in dire straits in all aspects of life—financially, spiritually, so-

cially. Unless past their 30s, people in Afghanistan know nothing but war. Children in Afghanistan have no sense of what living a traditional Afghan life is like due to the continued fighting," Gouttierre said.

Gouttierre felt that most Afghans supported the U.N. presence in their country. "Most Afghans we spoke with were hopeful since they have so little to be hopeful about."

Upon his return on Dec. 21, 1996, Gouttierre said that they were

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Gouttierre in Afghanistan for UN Peace Mission

Continued from page 14.

successful, but aspects of the mission were not yet complete. While they were able to get various factions to meet, fighting during the peace talks continued. "We have the groundwork laid for the process toward peace."

Gouttierre believed he was chosen for the mission because of his past experiences with Afghanistan. He has been working with the Afghan people since 1964 and even lived in Kabul from 1970-1974. "I was able to return to the house I lived in. It was totally destroyed."

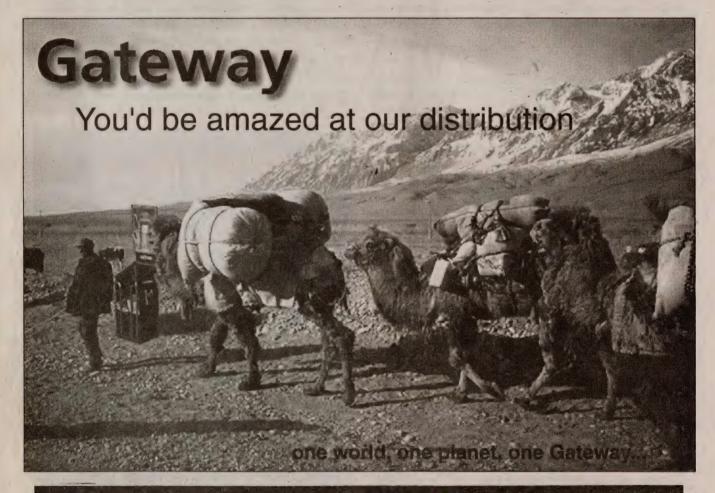
As the only American on the

mission, Gouttierre hopes the United States and the world will become more aware of the conflict there. "Many people worldwide are aware of the conflict in Yugoslavia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Most people are unaware of the struggle for peace

"Most Afghans we spoke with were hopeful since they have so little to be hopeful about."

-Thomas Gouttierre

happening in Afghanistan," he said.



GATEWAY WEBSITE www.gateway.unomaha.edu

UNO Responds to Campus Violence, Crime

By Jim Rejda

Several highly publicized criminal incidents have occurred on UNO's campus this year. These include:

- A UNO employee, coming off his night shift, found a cross stuck in his gas tank as well as racial slurs painted on his car.
- A football player was assaulted in the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building (HPER) which kept him in the hospital for four days.
- A senior in business management, sitting in the library talking to a friend, was threatened by someone with a can of mace.

These events have made us all realize that we are all vulnerable in the community at large.

-Barbara Hewins-Maroney • An instructor was raped in an Arts and Sciences Hall computer laboratory while conversing with a friend over the Internet.

• Racist literature found its way into two UNO buildings stating:

"Racism must continue/the more it is being talked about, the more we are motivated/ to pursue it until we rule/It will continue forever till/death do us

part/If you try to stop us we will/only be pushed to take more/aggressive action

KKK, Skin Heads, Hizler

p.s.-yes to black-on-black violence-it makes our duties much easier!!!!!"

In response to these incidents, the Faculty Senate voted to pass a resolution urging university officials to examine current security policies on campus and their effectiveness.

Campus Security said awareness has increased but that the recent crime has been unusual. "You can't avoid every bullet. When there is a person who is determined to commit a crime, no training in the world is going to stop that," said Paul Kosel, manager of Campus Security.

Another response from the university to the crime was an open forum sponsored by the chancellor's office titled "Hate Speech/Hate Crimes: How Should the University Respond?"

"UNO is a reflection of the Omaha community and we are not immune to this type of activity. We've gone for 20 years without sexual and racist incidents on our campus and all of a sudden they are coming at us all at once. These events have made us all realize that we are all vulnerable in the community at large. Something is happening in our society and we, as faculty, staff and students, need to be prepared when these types of things occur on our campus," said Barbara Hewins-Maroney, executive assistant to the chancel-lor

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Students Fight for Revival of Campus Radio

By Pat Justice

KBUL will be the future student-operated campus radio station if student advocates are successful in their bid to resurrect student operated radio on campus.

Following the demise of KBLZ in 1995 during the renovation of the Milo Bail Student Center, doubt has hung over the future of campus radio like Damocles' sword.

With a new commitment from students including Joe Hammon, president of KBUL, and Peter Soby, vice president, student radio at UNO may have a future. They have formed a student organization committed to recreating a radio station in the student center. Initially, they proposed the station be piped into MBSC and the Health, Physical Education and Recreation buildings, with plans for a small broadcast operation within three years.

The prior station, KBLZ, was never broadcast. The wiring for their piped-in music was removed from the student center and not replaced during the renovation of the MBSC. The projected cost of rewiring, estimated at \$10,000, was not included in the renovation budget. Students have been told they will need to pay for this expense as one condition of reviving student radio.

Students selected a new name for the station as a way to distinguish between the old and new stations and to signal a new beginning.

Dr. Chris Allen, associate professor of communication, has agreed to serve as faculty advisor to the group. Allen and student advocates met with Guy Conway, director of the MBSC, to determine what would need to be done to get student radio in operation.

Paperwork is being completed and filed with the Student Government to try to obtain official organization status prior to the end of the spring semester.

Students have adopted a constitution and agreements to create confidence in their ability to run a quality student organization and

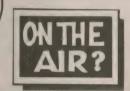
c o m p l y with broad-cast standards. The proposed for mat would not duplicate that of KBLZ, but

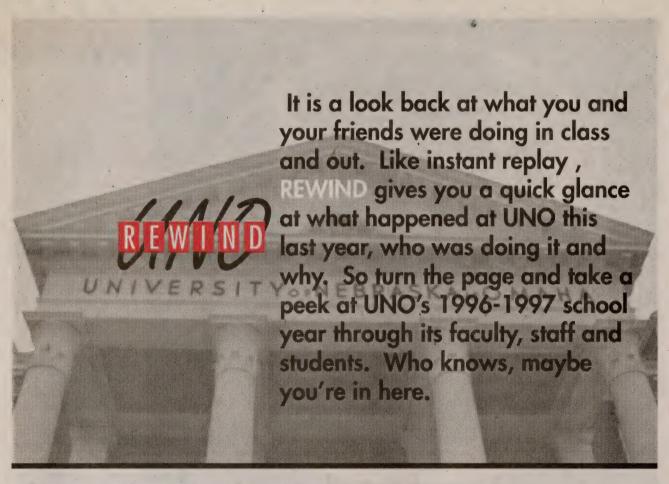
With a new commitment from students including Joe Hammon, president of KBUL and Peter Soby, vice president, student radio at UNO may have a future.

would include a variety of music including top-40, requests, and talk radio.

Student support has been indicated through petitions, requested by Conway to help determine whether there was student support beyond the core group.

Students polled during the spring semester said they felt it would increase student awareness and involvement on campus. They also felt it would provide valuable experience to broadcast students.





Through Hard Work and Faith UNO Freshman Wins National Award

By Nicole McManigal

The Boys & Girls Club and the Youth of the Year Program recognizes contributions to the community, academic performance, service to families, and spiritual life. Participants are nominated on local and state levels, with five regional winners meeting in Washington, DC., to compete for National Youth of the Year honors. The sponsor of the program, Reader's Digest Association, awards \$2,000 scholarships to regional finalists and a total scholarship of \$10,000 to the national winner. The Boys & Girls Clubs' National Youth of the Year for 1996-1997 is Omaha's own, Rasheen Coleman.

Coleman is not an ordinary success story. At age nine, Coleman had to become an adult. He had been kidnapped twice by his drugaddicted mother, who had physically and emotionally abused him.

He had to become a parent to his brother and sister. He clothed and fed them, tucked them in at night, and took them to school in the morning. Coleman and his siblings stayed with Coleman's great grandmother, "Big Ma," after being placed in various foster homes.

In 1988, his mother died of AIDS, and a year later "Big Ma" died. Coleman describes the death of "Big Ma" as "devastating" because "she was the only real mother"

he knew. Coleman attributes his "God fearing values" to his great grandmother.

In 1990, Coleman and family moved from Alabama to Nebraska to live with their aunt. Coleman became involved with the Boys & Girls Club among other projects. At the age of 12, he was the president of the Torch Club, a community service group, and editor of the Torch News. At the age of 16, Coleman became vice president of the Keystone Club, a nationally recognized leadership group.

"The Keystone Club was significant to me, because it helped shape my personal goals and per-

Continued on page 27





The Child Care Center offers a convenient service to UNO students with children. This boy seems to think it is a pretty fun place to play, too. (Photo by Lydia Johnson)

Child Care Center Provides Lessons for Students, Children

By Renee Novy

Over the past year, UNO's Child Care Center has served as a valuable resource for students with children as well as for the community and the campus.

"This past summer we had our 10-year anniversary," said Ellen Freeman-Wakefield, director of UNO's Child Care Center (UNOCCC).

As far as new developments for the UNOCCC goes, the center is thrilled to have new painting and carpeting projects underway.

"We haven't received any spe-

cific new contributions this year," Freeman-Wakefield said. "We do have the Children Television Resource and Education Center Interactive CD-ROM Program.

"We received a grant for this CD-ROM program for Macintosh and all the necessary software with which to do a teaching program called *Getting Along Interactive*," she said.

"This program is designed to teach children nonviolent ways for dealing with problems," she said.

In addition, UNOCCC helps

students who may not need childcare services.

"This semester, we've had 72 med students come to the center to do their first year of practicum for placements for pediatrics," Free-man-Wakefield said.

The aim of these pediatric medical students' practicum programs is to allow them to meet children, as well as to give them a chance to see what healthy 3 and 4 year olds are like.

Continued on page 21

Center Teachs Students, Children

Continued from page 20

"This way, when [these students] get into their respective professions, they'll know what it's going to be like and what the job will entail," she said.

The center also provides both male and female positive role models to the children, as is exemplified by the healthy mix of staff members.

"Roughly one-fourth of our staff is comprised of males," said Freeman-Wakefield.

The center sponsored a workshop that was open to the campus devoted to positive discipline techniques last November.

Another of the many memorable events sponsored last year by UNOCCC was Family Fun Night, which was held at the end of the women's and men's basketball sea-

son, before the final game.

"We had a dinner here at the center and a raffle drawing that raised \$750 for the center so we could buy new supplies," said Freeman-Wakefield.

An event to watch for is the annual graduation ceremony UNOCCC hosts for children going from preschool to kindergarten.

"We graduate between 12 and 25 students every summer. The kids make little mortar boards and get little certificates like diplomas. It's a lot of fun— we usually do our commencement exercises outside on the grass but last summer the weather was so bad that we had to do them in the Thompson Alumni Center," she said.

The center maintains an open-

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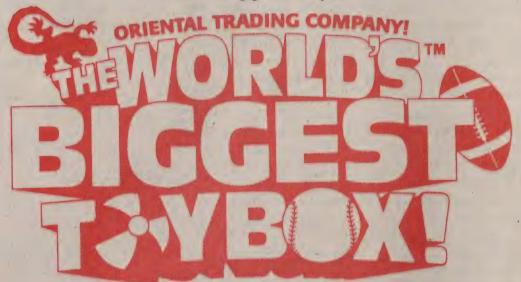


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Senior fine arts major Doug Smith gave students and faculty some new scenery on campus during the fall semester. The sculptor placed his submarine piece, titled "Surface and Be Seen," opposite the Durham Science Center. (photo by Chad Greene)



Students and Faculty

Express Themselves

Through Art

Professor Henry Serenco's sculpture, titled "Azrou Hero," was on display in the Fine Arts building in late January. (photo by Steve Houlton)



Artist Julie Rezac van Mierlo's exhibit of "Alphaforms" is a premant display in the Arts and Sciences Hall. The 26 stone tablets, representing each letter of the alphabet, weigh up to 100 pounds. (photo by Chad Greene)



This art student finds a spot on the floor of the studio in the Fine Arts building to work. Student and Faculty artwork can be seen all over campus. (Photo by Tony Miceli)



Fine Arts major Kerryshane Clark placed his scultpure title "Horse of Wire" in the main hallway of the Student Center. (photo by Chad Greene)





Homecoming King Anthony Turner and Queen Allison Rizzuto accepted their crowns in front of record crowds at the homecoming football game. Turner was sponsored by the American Multicultural Society and Rizzuto by Chi Omega sorority. (photo by Lydia Johnson)

Homecoming Created School Spirit Through Week-Long Activities, Parties

By Melissa Buck

Homecoming week was one of school spirit with student organizations, the Greek community, and UNO athletics coming together to celebrate the university.

Sept. 28th through Oct. 5th were the dates that this year's Homecoming Week, titled "Homecoming 96 Simply Mav-elous," was held by the Festivals Committee of the Student Programming Organization (SPO).

The goal of Homecoming was to reach 100% involvement throughout the campus in event participation. Many organizations sponsored homecoming king and queen candidates in an extra effort to be involved. Candidates for the homecoming royalty were from Student Government, the American Multicultural Society (AMS), Greek

fraternities and sororities, and other organizations. The winners of the titles were King Anthony Turner, sponsored by AMS and Queen Allison Rizzuto, sponsored by Chi Omega Sorority. A record number of students, faculty, and staff participated in this year's vote.

Homecoming Week included a community service event titled "Clothesline Across Campus." This SPO event ended up collecting over 4000 pieces of clothing donated by UNO students and staff. All the clothes were given to the Open Door Mission.

Another important part of Homecoming Week was the events. They included such traditions as hypnotist Jim Wand, who has been a part of UNO's Homecoming for many years. Over 800 students filled the Milo Bail Student Center

Ballroom to see his hilarious show which included people believing they were aliens and country singing heart-throbs.

Other fun-filled events of the week included Karaoke, a Hayrack ride at Shady Lanes, a chalk drawing contest (won by Theta Chi Fraternity), a BBQ Extravaganza, and a Homecoming dance at Castle Barrett's Hall.

"It was so much fun having a week like this at the beginning of the semester. It gave me a great chance to meet so many new people," said sophomore Amy Guice.

The week ended with lots of celebration, as a tailgate party was put on before the highly anticipated Homecoming football game. UNO's Mavericks ended up stomping their challenger Mankota State.



Partnerships Among Goals for New Med Center Chancellor

By Blenda Guarino

"The major things we've done internally is evaluate clinical activities as they relate to programs," William O. Berndt, chancellor of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, said.

Berndt was appointed to this position October 1,1996, after the resignation of Carol Aschenbrener. Since accepting the position, he has concentrated on promoting the continued success of UNMC.

Dr. Harold M. Maurer, UNMC dean of the College of Medicine was appointed Clinical Enterprise Leader. His primary focus will be to unite University Medical Associates, which is the physicians practice group, with the hospital so that they may speak as "one voice." In doing so, this will aid the hospital's wish to go into partnerships with other hospitals in the city.

A permanent advisory panel on research and education has been established to assess and create interdisciplinary and multi-educational classes which are necessary for all colleges within UNMC. Research into curriculum revisions in both the dentistry and pharmacy colleges has been done as well this past year.

The issue of partnerships with other city hospitals will continue to be reviewed as well as pursuing recommendations from the research and education panel regarding classes.

"There are plenty of things out (on the table)," said Berndt.

The idea of running for chancellor after this twoyear term is completed has not been considered, said Berndt. Nebraska University President L. Dennis Smith would make the decision on whether or not to elect him.

"I haven't discussed this with him," said Berndt. Berndt's term as chancellor will end in October 1998.

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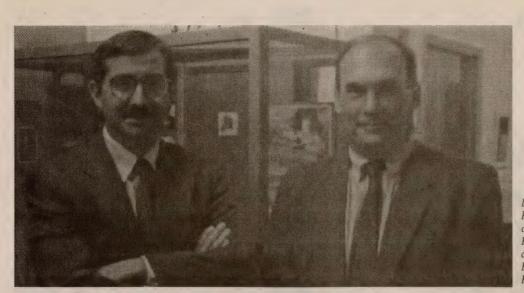
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Drs. Richard Freund and Rami Arav, chief archeologists of the Bethsaida project, encourage all students to exprience the Bethsaida dig. (photo by Heather Hadley)

An Exprience of a Lifetime

Bethsaida Dig Takes Students, Faculty Around the World

By Blenda Guarino

Wondering what to do with your summer? Would you like to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience? Maybe you have watched.Indiana Jones and said, "Wouldn't it be great to have an adventure like that!"

Wendy Chiarbos, coordinator of the Bethsaida Excavation Project, has done just that. Chiarbos went to the Middle East and worked as a digger, just like Indiana Jones in the "Raiders Of The Lost Ark."

The city of Bethsaida, built around the 10th century B.C., was occupied for at least 1,400 to 1,500 years.

"Before that we are unsure," said Chiarbos.

Located by the Sea of Galilee, Bethsaida was a major city for transit and commerce and a major urban center for the biblical Geshurites. Bethsaida was conquered by the Greeks, Hasmoneans and Romans during its existence. This city is the birthplace of the apostles Peter and Andrew and, according to the New Testament, this city was the site of the feeding of the multitudes, healing of the blind man, and Jesus walking on the waters.

This historical site has produced several finds for archeologists. A palace complex and city wall were unearthed showing the significance of this city in that period. Currently, archeologists are trying to uncover the palace of Bethsaida, as this will help archeologists understand more about the palace of King Solomon in Jerusalem.



The most recent and controversial find occurred last year when an intact incense shovel was found. This shovel was used in religious ceremonies to carry the incense to the sacrificial altar. The reason this is so controversial is because this practice would be highly unusual in Geshurite religion, said Chiarbos.

Currently, Dr. Rami Arav pre-

Continued on page 31



UNO Freshman Wins National Award

Continued from page 19

sonal values. I learned that I could make a difference in my life and in the lives of others."

"I learned that I could make a difference in my life and in the lives of others."

Rasheen Coleman freshman political science major

Coleman has worked with the elderly (Caretakers

Vacation), the homeless (Open Door Mission and the Lydia House) and the environment (Keep Omaha Beautiful). He is currently volunteering for the Brenda Council for mayor campaign. Eventually, Coleman says he wants to get involved with politics.

At UNO, Coleman is majoring in political science with an emphasis on business. This summer he is interning at Gateway 2000 in South Dakota. As Youth of the Year, he travels around the country talking to kids and professionals about the Boys & Girls Club of America.

He says he is "too busy for a lot of campus activities," which is understandable. Coleman has four events to attend this month. Denzel Washington, Michael Jordan, Betty White, Dominique Dawes, Joey Lawrence and Gen. and Mrs. Colin Powell are just some of the

people Coleman has met.

This young man, exposed to poverty, drugs and AIDS, could have easily turned to a life of crime, violence and gangs. With guidance and support from "Big Ma" and the Boys & Girls Club, Rasheen Coleman has become one of Omaha's greatest assets. UNO, meet Rasheen Coleman.



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Students toss a beach ball around during the March Mavness beach party. The Nebraska Room with Sweet 98 DJ Dave Swan was the closest students could get to the beach this semester. (photo by Chad Greene)

"March Mavness" Gave Students a Needed Break

By Melissa Buck

This year on March 3-7 students at UNO participated in the Student Programming Organization's (SPO) week of March Mavness. The week formerly known as Spring Fling Week was a week full of activities designed to appeal to everyone on campus.

One of the highlights of the week was the fund-raiser held for Andrew Evans, the six-year-old boy who was paralyzed in an air bag accident during the Christmas season. To raise money for Andrew, organizations on campus got involved in a contest known as the Penny Pitcher Prince and Princess Competition.

The competition had students voting for prince and princess candidates by putting pennies in one of 15 designated pitchers. The event

went way over its goal of \$500 and ended up raising more than \$2,400 to donate to the Andrew Evans Fund. Kristen Adams of Chi Omega Sorority and Dan Caudle of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity were the princess and prince title winners of the event.

The week of March Mavness included activities that drew largecrowds of students. Some of the favorite events included the Beach Party with Sweet 98 disc jockey Dave Swan, the pie eating contest, free night bowling at the Ranch Bowl, Battle of the Bands and the end-of-the-week dance at Castle Barrett's Hall. Every day of the week had some type of activity going on, with some of the days having numerous events.

Friday was definitely the day of May spirit with organizations participating in a banner contest, won by Chi Omega Sorority, and



Sophomore education major Laura Brown bowls a strike at the Night Bowling event at the Ranch Bowl during March Mavness week. (photo by Chad Greene)

shooting organizational pictures with members in school colors. The week was ended with a bash at Castle Barrett's which had over 400 people in attendance.

"The week was so much fun. People were so school-spirited, making me proud to be a student at UNO,"said sophomore Pat Denton.

Many students commented that they liked the week because of the diversity of the activities. Jazz Night, held on Thursday, March 6, was meant to bring new and creative ideas to events. Jazz Night featured the Mainstreet Jazz Quartet playing in the Ballroom of the Milo Bail Student Center, which was decorated like a jazz club.

SPO planned the week of March Mavness as a way to give students a fun break from their usual routine and chaos of the semester.



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The UNO forensics team had several qualifiers for the National Tournament for the third year in a row. Members include (from left in back row) Stephen Croucher, Dave Jackson and Joni Dick, (front row) Assistant Director Julie McKnight, Viven Valdez, Christine Mixan, Darby Arant and Director Paula Hazelbrigg. (Photo by Chad Greene)

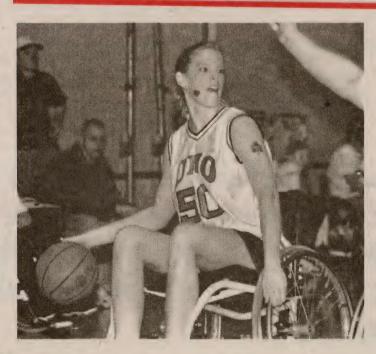
Small team makes big finishes

Ever feel like you just need someone to lisen to you? For the UNO forensics team tournament judges are not only listening, but they're scoring them very high.

Despite their small numbers, four of the five-member speech team qualified for the National Tournament in Arlington, Texas in April. "It really reinforces the team concept when you are outnumbered like we are. It makes winning more exciting because you know you all had a part in it. Every member is so important," junior Dave Jackson said. Jackson has finished in the top ten this year in duo interpretation (with Vivan Valdez), prose and poetry interpretation.

Other national qualifiers include sophomore Christine Mixan with a persuasive speech on fraud and Viven Valdez's poetry interpretation on handgun violence. Freshman qualifier Stephen Croucher participated in extemporaneous and informative speech, while Joni Dick, also a freshman, gave an informative piece on music therapy and polio oral vaccination.

Assistant Director Julie McKnight felt they had a large showing considering the small size of the team. The four qualifiers competed in nine different events, giving them many opportunities for success.



Shootin' Some Hoops

Joy Veenstra (#50) looks for an open player during a game with the UNO wheelchair basketball team. Veenstra, a Recreational Theraphy graduate student, is not physically handicapped, but plays for fun. This is the team's first semester playing, although some of the players have played with other teams before. Josie Johnson (#24) has played on the USA Women's Wheelchair Basketball Olympic Team. (Photo by Chad Greene)



Bethsaida Dig Offers Students Experience

Continued from page 26.

dicts that only 10 percent of the site has been touched, said Chiarbos. That means there is plenty of opportunities for others to dig up some artifacts.

Sound interesting? Students, like Chiarbos, can go to Bethsaida. For about \$2,500 plus tuition, any student can experience this adventure. Included in the \$2,500 is airfare, room and board. Students can receive up to six credits in philosophy/religion, international studies, geography or geology for participating.

During their stay, diggers can expect to rise early and end the day early.

"At 5:30 a.m. we are at the site," said Chiarbos. Breakfast and an afternoon Popsicle break happen on-site. At 12:30 p.m. the diggers go back to the kibbutz for lunch. (A kibbutz is a collective farm.) After lunch they go back to the site and dig until 4:30 p.m. The rest of the day is free time.

During the evening, diggers can go swimming in the Sea of Galilee, attend evening lectures, and watch Dr. Arav do pottery reading, said Chirabos.

The next few trips are scheduled for May 18, June 15, and July 7. These trips last about two or three weeks but can be lengthened or shortened to fit individual needs. Trips to Bethsaida run from January through July.

UNO is the controlling university for this project. This summer, participants are coming from as far away as Germany, Mexico, Canada, Macedonia, and Oxford University, Great Britain, said Chiarbos.

"About 350-375 (people) are expected," said Chiarbos.

To obtain a brochure and additional information you can contact Chiarbos at 554-2902 or in Arts and Sciences Hall, Room 343.

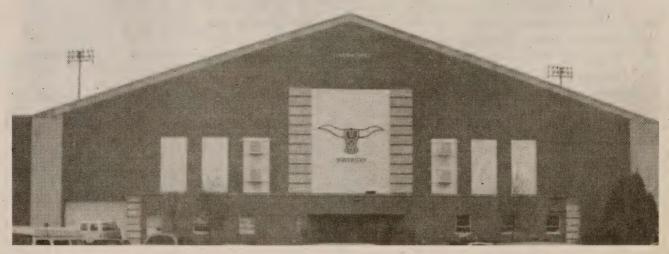


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REFLEX

NATIONAL CHAMPS!

From the Beginning

By Jonathan Pelphrey

"The 1996 Lady Mav volleyball team will be a legitimate national title contender."

If ever there were prophetic words spoken by a volleyball coach, these words, spoken by UNO Lady Mav Coach Rose Shires before the 1996 season, were.

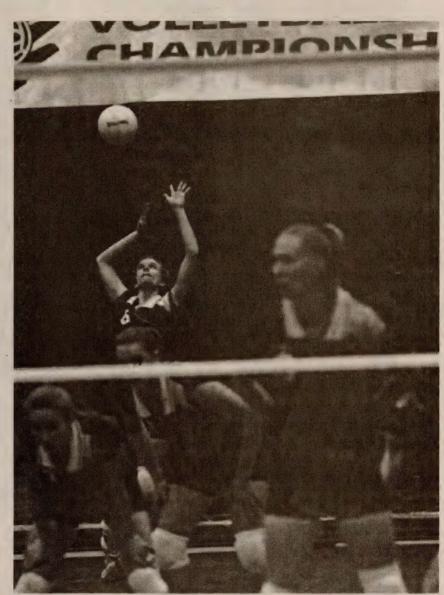
In the mid 1980's the women's volleyball program at UNO claimed five straight North Central Conference titles under Coach Janice Kruger. But since then, the Lady Mavs had not won one and had only been to the national tournament once. To make matters worse, the 1995 team was passed over for a spot in the tournament despite a 22-9 record and a No. 14 national ranking.

This year's team had something to prove, a mission to accomplish.

It did not hurt that senior setter Amy Steffel, the eventual career set-assist record-holder at UNO, would be leading the mission. She was helped by juniors Tanya Cate, Chrityn Malone, Erin Shafer, and Kim Gerdes.

They got more help from defensive specialists Jamie Shafer and Cheri Pribyl — and a freshman hitter, Chris Brink.

Through the course of the season, the Lady Mavs only lost two



Erin Schafer serves the ball to the University of Tampa during the Championship games on Dec. 8. (photo by Chad Greene)

games compared to 31 victories. The Lady Mavs, ranked No. 1 at the end of the season, were clear favorites going into the regional tournament.

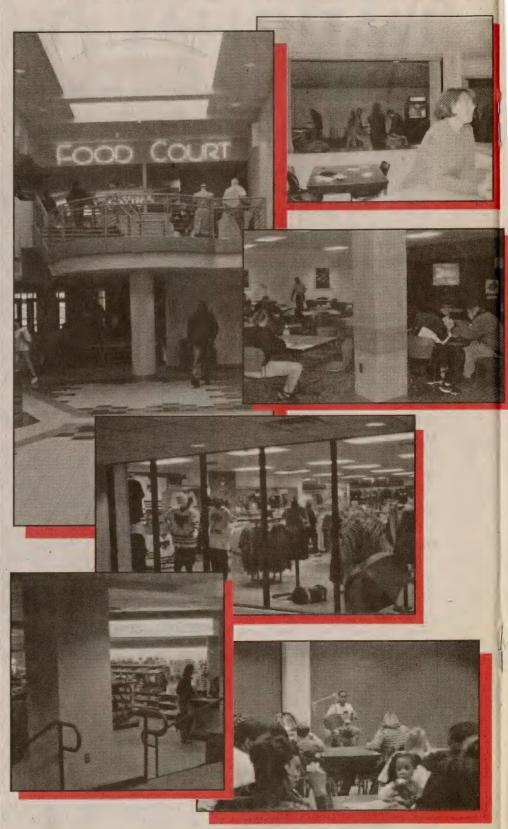
In the regional championship game against rival North Dakota

State, the Lady Mavs started slow, but stormed back. After losing the first game 15-7, the Lady Mavs came back and won the following three in a row and won the match.

"We've always prided our-

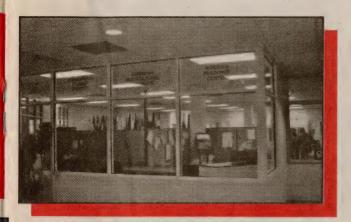
Continued on page 36

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Stop For A Visit...
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National Champs

Continued from page 33

selves on being finishers and never giving up, even if we're behind," Steffel said after the match.

That determination had taken them to the final round of eight teams.

The next week, at the Division II finals in Warrensburg, Mo., the Lady Mavs faced a daunting task. They had to win three games in a row against some of the best teams in the country.

They met-up with New Haven University (Conn.) first. The Chargers came into the tournament with a 44-1 record, their only loss coming at the hands of the defending national champions.

After falling behind 0-6, the Lady Mavs came back to out-score New Haven 14-1 and win the first game 15-7. They then won the next two games 15-7 and 15-1 to claim the match.

Their next opponent, presented a greater challenge for the Lady Mavs. Led by setter Liu Jun, the Northern Michigan (NMU) Wildcats took UNO all the way to a fifth and deciding game before the Lady Mavs could finally put everything together and win.

The two teams traded games — UNO winning the first and third, NMU winning the second and fourth — for the majority of the match. The fifth and final game, which uses rally scoring, was won by the Lady Mavs, 15-10.

The match might have been the toughest of the tournament. "That was a fantastic match," Shires said. "It was just great volleyball."



The Lady Maus volleyball team celebrate their National Championship win. (photo by Chad Greene)

But the Lady Mavs were not done yet. Erin Shafer said the team gathered together in a huddle after the match. "We got into our huddle and said, 'All right, we're not done. We've got one more to go.""

The University of Tampa, their opponent in the final, had a "strong-

found themselves in an all-or-nothing game five. The two teams battled to a 10-10 tie before the Lady Mavs were able to put together four points and get to match point.

After several side-outs, the magical moment came. The Lady Mavs served and the return by

"There are better volleyball players, but there's not a better volleyball team." -Coach Rose Shires

minded" team, according to Shires. One that would not go down easily.

After trading games one and two, the UNO suffered an injury to middle blocker Kim Gerdes early in game three. Without Gerdes' hitting power in the middle, the Lady Mavs had to turn to the outside hitters almost exclusively. Shafer stepped up to the challenge, recording five straight kills, followed by two straight service aces, to put the Lady Mavs ahead 11-6. UNO won that game eventually, 15-10.

After allowing Tampa to take game four, however, the Lady Mavs

Tampa was stuffed at the net, single-handedly, by Brink.

Mission accomplished.

"There are better volleyball players," Shires said after the game, "but there's not a better volleyball team."

"We believed it was going to happen," Shafer said. "And we believed every day, even if we didn't have a good practice, even if we lost a match. We stayed with each other and we worked through the hard times to where we are today."

Today they are National Champions.



Mavs Capture NCC Crown

10-2 Record Best in Years

By Jonathan Pelphrey

Only one Maverick football team since 1987 had won more games than they lost. As recently as 1994, the Mavs were a paltry 1-10. But the 1996 UNO Maverick football team made those seasons of ineptitude a little less nightmarish. And a little more dreamlike.

The Mavs of '96 were all too real to the opponents they faced. All season a smothering defense held fast when all seemed lost. And all season, despite periodic struggles, the offense came up with plays when it had to.

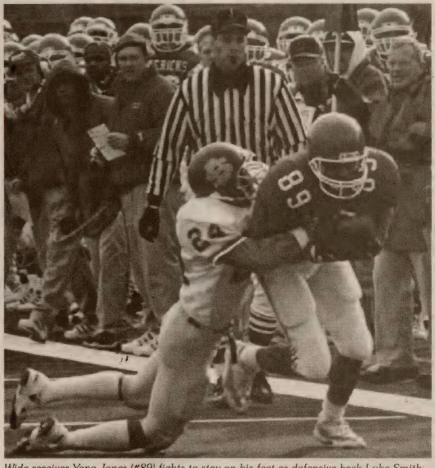
The first undeniable confirmation of their strength as a whole team came against the then No. 1 team in the country.

After starting 2-0 on the season, the Mavs had lost a one-point gut-wrencher to Mankato State at home. That 16-15 loss served as a gut-check for the young Mavericks. They had missed four scoring opportunities and had come up short in the final minutes.

The following week they would have to face perennial power and top-ranked North Dakota State (NDSU). In previous years the Mavs might have folded.

"We can't focus on this loss," May Head Coach Pat Behrns said at the time.

The Mays listened and re-



Wide receiver Yano Jones (#89) fights to stay on his feet as defensive back Luke Smith (#24) from South Dakota State drags him down. (photo by Jason Young)

sponded with a 24-21 upset of NDSU in the FargoDome — the first time any UNO team had won there.

Facing a 21-7 deficit in the third quarter and 12,000 screaming Bison fans, the Mavs came back to within three at 21-18. After taking over at their own 20 with 3:17 left to play, the Mavs did what they were not supposed to be able to do. They marched down the field, scored, and won.

"The first half they wore us

down quite a bit," defensive back Cedric Welch said after the game. "At halftime we had a heart check and knew what we had to do in the second half."

That halftime heart check may have helped them for the rest of the season, for the Mavs seemed to know what they had to do in each of the next seven games to win.

One of the Mavs toughest tests of the season came on October 19 against the eventual national cham-

Continued on page 38

Mavs Capture NCC Crown with 10-2 Record

Continued from page 37 pion Northern Colorado Bears. Both the Mavs and the Bears featured tough defenses and physical players.

The game resembled a classic heavyweight bout, with the two sides trading punches but having a hard time gaining the upper hand. The Bears held a 14-12 lead at the end of the third quarter, but what little momentum there was seemed to be swinging toward the UNO side of the field.

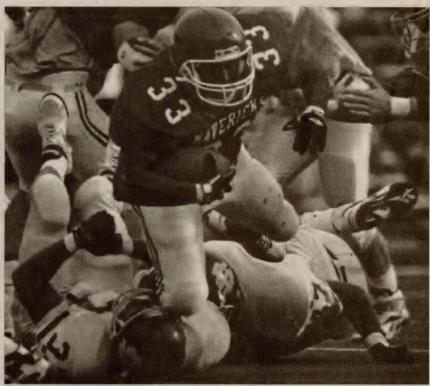
The Mav's defense came up with stop after stop, sack after sack, and eventually the offense found a way to score. Kicker Paul Kosel, who struggled on and off during the season, put his third attempt of the game through the uprights. UNO won 15-14.

When November 9 rolled around the Mavs still had not lost a game since their North Central Conference opener against Mankato State. That amazing string of victories had them in position to claim their first-ever outright NCC title in their home game against South Dakota State that day.

Once again the game came down to the last minute. This time, though, the Mavs would have to fight off a Jackrabbit team that had just recovered their own on-side kick on the 50 yard line with 47 seconds left to play.

The defense came through in the form of a Jason Bartling interception, and the Mavs won 19-17.

After winning 31-22 the following week against South Dakota, the Mavs were 10-1, ranked in the top five, and hosting a Division II playoff game. "If we had thought about this at the beginning of the year, people would have wondered



Running back Melvin McPhaull tries to break a South Dakota State tackle during the Nov.9 game. (photo by Jason Young)

if we were sane," Behrns said.

The Northwest Missouri State Bearcats came in to town with a 10-1 team and a loss to avenge. They had just lost their chance at an undefeated season the week before by going down 40-0 to the Pittsburgh (Kan.) State Gorillas.

The game, true to season-long form, came down to the wire — the very last play of the game to be exact. All day the two teams battled in the icy air, neither gaining a distinct advantage. But with time running out the Mavs held a 21-16 lead. A field goal would do the Bearcats no good. They needed a touchdown.

In the last 30 seconds of the game, the Bearcats converted two fourth-down plays — one of them

the last play of the game.

That last play was a 17-yard pass to running back Jesse Haynes with no time left on the clock. It was tipped and caught, one-handed in the endzone. Game over. Season over.

But not Mavericks over. "You bet we feel bad about losing," Behrns said. "But that's why we're going to have a good program here — because we feel bad about losing. Our expectations are going to be higher than what they have been."

And so will everyone else's.

No problem, according to Behrns. "We're going to be in these darn playoffs again. I guarantee that."

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Lady Mavs Fight for Winning Season

Finish with 16-10 Record

By Jonathan Pelphrey

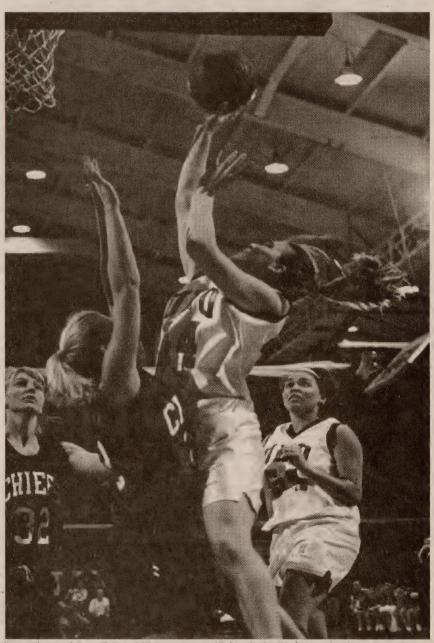
Coming off a 13-14 season, this year's Lady Mav basketball team was looking to make a move into the upper division of the North Central Conference. But, despite improving significantly over last year, the Lady Mavs fell just short of their goal, finishing the season at 16-10 and 9-9 in the conference.

At the beginning of the season, the Lady Mavs stacked up well against their opponents. Head Coach Cherri Mankenberg had added several taller players to the team in the off-season and that, along with solid play from seniors Amy Breen, Stacie Kaiser and Amy Loth, was resulting in victories.

The Lady Mavs won their first six games before falling to Nebraska-Kearney on Dec. 14. But the setback to the Lopers was only a bump in the road. The Lady Mavs proceeded to win the next six, earning a 5-0 conference record in the process.

One of those wins came against then No. 7 South Dakota State on the road. The 92-85 double overtime victory set the Lady Mavs squarely among the top teams in the conference — just where they wanted to be.

With a 12-1 record in hand, the Lady Mavs met up with Augustana. and lost. That began a four game skid over 20 days in January, finally ending in a come-from-behind 75-



Junior forward Amy Breen #44 jumps over the head of a Morningside player to make another two points for the Lady Mavs during the Dec. 28 game. (photo by Chad Greene)

65 victory over St. Cloud State on the road. Next the Lady Mavs beat Mankato State, 86-81.

But Augustana would break the winning streak again, with an

81-71 victory over the Lady Mavs. The next night South Dakota State (the only conference team to lose to UNO and finish over .500) avenged

Continued on page 41



Young Team had Much Success in 1996

By Kathy Daley

The 1996 season was a successful one for the UNO Lady Mav's cross country team. With no seniors, two juniors, three sophomores and four freshman, the Lady Mavs looked to build on their potential.

Coach Tim Hendricks, in his tenth year, said he was looking for this team to excel through a solid work ethic. With youth on their side, and excellent upperclassmen leadership, the Lady Mavs had a realistic chance to see some post-season action.

The commitment, hard work and dedication paid off when UNO's cross country team finished second in three of their meets, the Dean White Invite, the Lucent Technology Invite, and the Mount Marty Invite.

Sophomore Tara Biltoft and junior Elise Henry were at the top of the roster last season. Biltoft was named NCC cross country athlete of the week twice during the course of the season. She made All-NCC 1996, All-NCAA regional 1996, and placed first in three of her seven

"I feel like we're probably the best team that's going to stay home." -Coach Tim Hendricks

meets. Bitloft also set two cross country course records. One at the Dean White Invite where she ran 18:37.2 and the other at the Mount Marty Invite where she ran 18:02.

Henry, in 1995, was an All-American in cross country, finishing in the top-10 in six out of seven meets. Henry also earned the All-American (GTE) award with a 4.0 GPA in pre-med.

These two girls were not alone, however. If it were not for the constant support from their teammates, they never could have achieved such high goals. Last year's team consisted of junior Jamie Brown from Papillion; Henry from Council Bluffs; Bitloft from Nelson, Neb.; sophomore Michelle Peterson from Ralston; sophomore Shannon Williams from Omaha; freshman Niki Dorcus from Devils

Tower, Wyo.; freshman Becky Goltz from Plattsmouth; freshman Heather Helsey from Papillion and freshman Amy Parson from Plattsmouth.

At the end of the season, the team competed in the Division II regional meet, fulfilling one of their goals. But their fourth-place finish (out of seventeen teams) fell just short of what they needed to advance to nationals. The top three teams advanced, leaving the Lady Mavs out by one place.

"I feel like we're probably the best team that's going to stay home," Hendricks said after the regionals.

Despite not making nationals, the team developed into a solid squad that will challenge the field again next year. The Lady Mavs will return all of their athletes next fall. Look out.

Lady Mavs Fight for 16-10 Record

Continued from page 40 their earlier loss to the Lady Mavs, winning 80-64.

Once again, the Lady Mavs began to lose — but they continued to challenge their opponents. In Fargo, against the undefeated and No. 1-ranked Bison of North Dakota State, the Lady Mavs came to within 5 points with less than two minutes remaining. But the loss came nonetheless, putting the Lady Mavs in danger of suffering another losing season in the NCC.

But it was not to be. In their last two home games, the seniors

rose to the occasion, playing some of their best basketball of the year. The result was a pair of victories over South Dakota and Morningside — and a 9-9 conference record.

The Lady Mavs' 16-10 finish was the best since the 1991-92 squad went 20-9.



Mays Finish Second in Nation

Six All-Americans Led the Way

By Jeffrey Casady

The wrestling team, led by Head Coach Mike Denney and five seniors, finished the season second in the nation with six all-Americans.

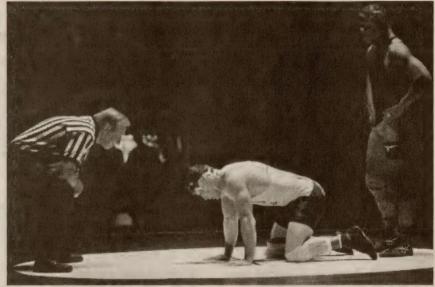
The season can be compared to a "great roller coaster ride with every turn and drop more exciting than the last, then coming to an abrupt end, especially for the five seniors who will never again get a chance to take a ride," senior Dan Lovell said.

The ride came to an early halt for one senior. Shane Allison had his career end early due to an injury sustained at the Glen Brand Open. His replacement, Chris Blair, went on to earn his second all-American honor, finishing sixth at 150 pounds in the nationals.

National recognition escalated for the Mavs after defeating Central Oklahoma in the finals of the National Dual Meet in Edmond, Okla. The defeat marked the first loss for Central Oklahoma at home in 10 years. The Mavs, as a result, were pushed up from third to first in the Division II ratings.

By season's end, UNO defeated Central Oklahoma three times, and finished 13-1 in dual competition. "This is sound evidence that coach (Denney) is continually putting a better product on the mat each year," senior Pat Kelley III said.

After the National Duals the team lost 126-pounder Gill Domally



Wrestler Corry Royal (right) waits for the referee to continue the match on March 15. Royal defeated Irwin Brambley of Pittsburgh-Johnston (pictured) 6-2 to win the National Championships in the 177-pound division. (photo by Jonathan Pelphrey)

to personal conflicts. "It was tough to watch Gill leave, but it was a great opportunity for back-up T.J. Brummels to step in and get some experience on the varsity level," Kelley said.

Heading into the North Central Conference tournament, the Mavs had visions of a third conference championship.

The Mavs fell short of their goals, finishing second at the conference tournament. Six wrestlers did qualify for the national tournament in Fargo, N.D., however, where once again the team landed second to San Francisco State.

"It was a great season. Yet, finishing second as a team in conference and nationals almost sounds disappointing since we had such high expectations," Kelley said.

Returning all-Americans Brauman Creighton (134 pounds) and Corry Royal (177 pounds) each finished as conference champions. At nationals, Creighton earned a third place finish, while Royal rolled through his competition winning his second national title.

The four other Mavs that competed in the national tournament were Dan Lovell (third), Jerry Corner (fifth), Chris Blair (sixth), and Pat Kelley III (second).

Due to the many returning wrestlers, UNO should continue to provide strong finishes in the years to come.



Track Races to High Finishes

By Jonathan Pelphrey and Michelle Wells

The Lady Mavs track team closed out their season with big finishes at some major events. A ninth place finish at the NCAA Division II National Track and Field Championships was the best-ever for the Lady Mavs.

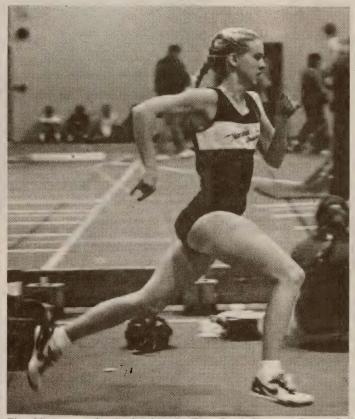
The March 7-8 meet in Indianapolis, Ind., netted all-American honors for UNO runners Carri Butler, Tara Biltoft and the 4x400 relay team of Sandy Derby, Kelly Koziol, Katie McDonnell and Butler.

The season began in mid-January with Butler qualifying for nationals in the 400 meters at the Cornhusker Open. That achievement also earned her NCC female track athlete of the week honors.

The Feb. 1 Tiger Track Classic at Doane College gave team a preview of the North Central Conference (NCC) Indoor Championships a few weeks later. The Lady Mavs dominated their closest competition, Doane College, 109-63. "I like scored meets," UNO Head Coach Tim Hendricks said. "I think that's what it's all about. In fact, I wish they had more of them."

The Lady Mavs meet with other competition that day. "I wanted to come here because (Nebraska-Kearney) was here. They're a Division II school and we just wanted to kick their butt," Hendricks said, laughing. And beat they did, by more than 80 points.

"We ran much better this time in here than we did three weeks ago," Hendricks said. "We really



Elise Henry races for the finish at the Tiger Track Classic at Doane College. The Lady mavs won the indoor track meet, outscoring their closest competition, Doane College, 109-63. (photo by Chad Greene)

didn't rest before that meet. We had two easy days before this meet so we're a little bit fresher."

The Tiger Track Classic also put Theresa Williams in the UNO record books with school-best marks of 46-6 1/2 in the shot put and 46-3 1/4 in the 20-pound weight throw.

The track team's performances led Coach Hendricks to be optimistic about their chances at the NCC Championships. "This is the first time we really feel like we can win it," he said.

Hendricks said the key to doing well is being relaxed. "We feel

like if we treat this like any other meet, we'll do well," he said. To make the team feel more comfortable, they competed in a meet at the Dakota Dome in Vermillion, S.D., a week prior to the March 7-8 championships there.

This exposure helped the Lady Mavs capture second place, the best finish since 1982. They were narrowly out-scored by South Dakota 106-101.

But some good efforts from Williams, Butler, Derby and Biltoft, among others, took the Lady Mavs to nationals, and their best-ever finish there.



Mays Finish Best Season in Five Years

Coach Looks to be League Champ in '98

By James Shaw

For the first time in five years, the UNO men's basketball team was within reach of a winning season (13-14 overall, 6-12 in the conference). As their second overtime game in as many days fell out of hand, it was still a season of victory.

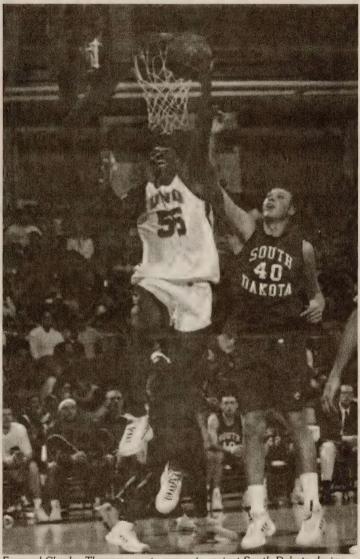
"This team has laid a tremendous foundation for the effort and commitment to move this program forward," Mav Head Coach Kevin Lehman said.

The Mavericks were a young team and are only losing three seniors, Troy Kloewer, J.R. Waller and Rashaad Watkins. Lehman predicts the team will be back next year with an established new attitude for the program.

With this new attitude, Lehman believes the team has grown to a point where they can establish a new goal for themselves. "Our goal next year will be to win this league," he said. "We will win this league."

The combination of freshmen stepping up like Charles Thompson, Mike Simons, and Jason Smith, added to the triple threat of Robert Green, Shadric Thomas and Charles Box, makes it possible for UNO to claim a North Central Conference championship next year.

One of the many reasons UNO



Forward Charles Thompson gets some air against South Dakota during the Feb. 28 game. (photo by Jason Young)

had such a successful season was the play of transfer student, Robert Green. He led both the team and the NCC in rebounds. Injuries also played a major role in the season as leading scorer Charles Box was hampered with pain at the end of the season.

"We've lost a lot of close

games that could of gone either way," Lehman said. "This team has done a lot of growing up and growing together."

With great expectations next year, hopefully the team will plant a basketball championship in the UNO Fieldhouse.



Mavs Win Despite Weather

By Jonathan Pelphrey

When the Mavericks took to the field in 1997, they were an effective baseball team, compiling a 17-11 record through April 12. But for the first half of the season the Mavs were periodically stopped by a player they simply could not control — Mother Nature.

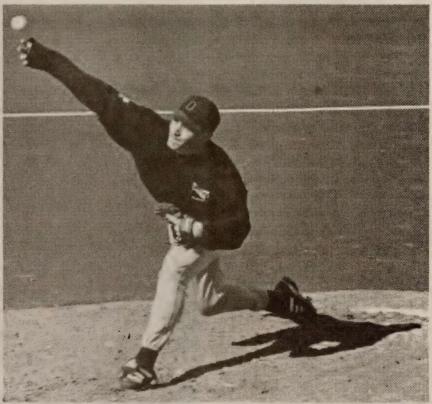
The weather kept the Mavs from getting started until a full week into the season. The first four games were all cancelled or postponed due to cold weather.

Once the Mavs got going, however, they met with some success. They won their season opener against Doane College by a score of 5-2.

Greg Geary established himself as a team leader in the game by picking up his first win as a pitcher and going 2-for-3 with two RBIs. He currently leads the team in at-bats (88), batting average (.443), runs (28), hits (39), RBI's (32), and walks (19).

The Mavs split doubleheaders with their next four opponents. During this stretch, from March 7-10, the Mavs showed some inconsistency (winning 20-7 and losing 0-11 in consecutive games with Midland Lutheran) but also showed promise.

After dropping two games to in-state giant Nebraska-Lincoln, the Mavs went on a tear, winning 11 of their next 13 games — including a 9-2 performance at the Wilson Classic, held March 24-29 in Joplin, Mo.



Pitcher Carey Schrank throws a strike against the University of Nebraska at Lincoln during the first game of the double-header on March 19. (photo by Chad Greene)

In one game against host team Missouri Southern, the Mavs pounded out 24 hits and 22 runs in the way to victory.

The Mavs dropped three of the their next four games, however, including a split with North Central Conference rival Morningside College.

The weather began to interfere with the season again in the first week of April. Only two of the four scheduled games against Morningside were played and an April 8 date with Midland Lutheran

was cancelled.

As of April 12, Brian Kudym leads the team defensively with 118 put-outs and a .985 fielding percentage. Among pitchers with more than ten innings under their belts, Steve Synowicki leads with a 2.08 earned run average (ERA). Bill Childers leads the team in strikeouts (23) and innings pitched (29 1/3).

As a team, the Mavs are batting 342 while their opponents have a .300 batting average. The Mavs have a team ERA of 6.52 and the opponents have a 8.63 ERA.



Softballers Streak To Victory

By Jonathan Pelphrey

The women's softball team, returning 1996 Division II national runners-up and pre-season No. 4, came into the season looking to build on their already top-notch reputation. Getting off to a record 13-0 start did not hurt.

Before this year, the Lady Mavs' best start ever had been five straight wins. But this years' squad barreled through the early part of the schedule, taking out teams as good as ninth-ranked South Dakota State. The first loss did not come until March 16 during the championship game of the Trusler Tournament at Emporia, Kan when the Lady Mavs fell to Central College, 6-4.

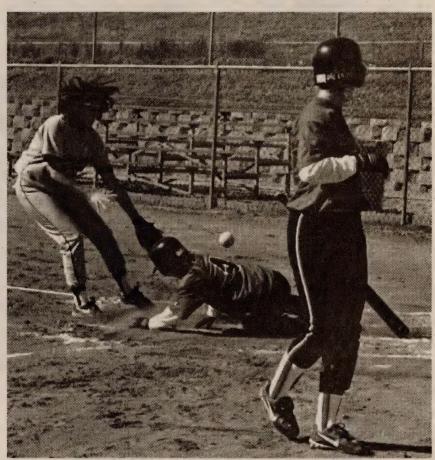
The team began it's season by handing out crushing defeats to it's first six opponents at the Missouri Southern Classic in Joplin, Mo. The Lady Mavs outscored their opponents at the tournament 48-6.

Freshman pitcher Kelly Secord began to establish herself as a reliable pitcher early, winning her first five games. Her solid pitching, combined with the pitching of Tara Buzzell, helped fill the shoes of now-graduated all-American Denise Peterson.

The Lady Mavs improved to 24-2. After losing one game at the Rebel Spring Games, they advanced to the end, defeating then No. 6 Florida Southern 6-0 on March 28.

A doubleheader with South Dakota was the first North Central Conference meeting for the Lady

Continued page 47



UNO leftfielder Nicole Siemek (#4) slides safely into home at the Emporia State Trusler Tournament in Emporia, Kan., on March 14-15. (photo by Renee Ryan)

But the Lady Mavs, if their solid start is any indicator, will once again be in contention for a national title this spring.

UND

Pitcher Tara Buzzell winds up for a strike during an Apr. 3 game against Nebraska-Kearney. The Lady Mavs split the double header at home, losing 7-1 the first game, but coming back for a 5-1 win in the second game. (photo by Chad Greene)

UNO Softball Team Streaks To Victory

Continued from page 46

Mavs. A split was the result. UNO Coach Mary Yori said the team may have overlooked the unranked Coyotes. "It's tough to win every single time," she said. "They're a team that we expect to beat and we should sweep. We just kind of overlooked them a little bit."

Despite the loss, the Lady Mavs moved to No. 2 in the national rankings.

But the No. 6 ranked Lopers from Nebraska-Kearney swiped a game from the Lady Mavs during an April 3 doubleheader. The Lady Mavs followed the 7-1 loss with a 5-1 victory, however, and improved to 26-4 on the season.

The bizarre weather during the second week of April resulted in the UNO Invite's cancellation, which would have given the Lady Mavs a number of home games before the bulk of conference games began. But the Lady Mavs, if their solid start is any indicator, will once again be in contention for a national title this spring.







Leahy Ends Term as Athletic Director

By Jim Rejda

UNO Athletic Director Don Leahy, will conclude his two-year term on June 30, 1997.

Leahy took over the position in August 1995 after being initially asked by Chancellor Del Weber to head a search committee to find a new director. After meeting and discussing the plans for the immediate future, it was concluded that it made sense for Leahy to come out of retirement for a short period and serve as athletic director.

Leahy was athletic director at UNO from 1974-85 and at Creighton University from 1985-90.

Leahy's reappointment to the athletic director's post came at a time when UNO was looking toward expanding the athletic program.

Over these last two years, Leahy has been involved in implementing several new additions to the program. These include:

- The addition of NCAA Division I Hockey, which begins competition in 1997-98.
- A \$9.5 million building project that will include both new and renovated space for men's and women's athletics.
- · The addition of four new women's sports, including swimming and diving for 1997-98, soccer in 1999, and tennis and golf in

2000.

· A total revision of fund-raising for athletics.

Those who have worked with Leahy have found him a very good director as well as per-

"Don Leahy has once again made an indelible mark on UNO athletics," Weber said.

"His credibility, talents and his very presence have enabled [UNO] to move to a higher level."

Assistant Athletic Director Bob Danenhauer has know Leahy for the last 20 years.

"It has been a great pleasure working with Don," Danenhauer said. "I have a great respect for the job he has done and for the accomplishments he has made in a very short time."

Though he is resigning as athletic director, Leahy hopes to stay at UNO as a part-time assistant athletic director, working on special projects such as the inaugural hockey season and major fund-raising events.

Leahy's contributions and organizational skills have been a major influence on the growth of the



Don Leahy ends his two-year term as athletic director June 30. (photo by Jason Young)

"Don Leahy has once again made an indelible mark on UNO athletics."

Chancellor Del Weber

athletic program. All one has to do is take a look at the productivity of the 1996-97 school year. A few examples include UNO's national finish in the top five in football and its first ever national championship in volleyball.

MAVS/LADY MAVS OF THE MONTH

Melvin McPhaull (photo by Jason Young)

SEPTEMBER 1996

Sophomore tailback Melvin McPhaull earned the September Mav of the Month by leading UNO's rushing attack--the second best in the conference. After two years with the Huskers and one year at South Dakota, McPhaull has finally found his niche with the Mavs. After only a few starts, McPhaull posted higher numbers

than all the UNO backs combined. McPhaull throughout the season that this is where he belongs.

OCTOBER 1996

As a first-year quarterback, Sophomore Ed Thompson was supposed to use this year adjusted to his position. Instead, Thompson has used his first year as quaterback to shine. One of the biggest upsets of the season came when UNO beat No. 1 ranked North Dakota State. Thompson combined accuracy and few interceptions for a great season of UNO football.



Ed Thompson (photo by Jason Young)



NOVEMBER 1996

Two volleyball players shared the award this month. Middle blocker Tanya Cate (junior) and outside hitter Erin Shafer (junior) have both helped the Lady Mavs put in the high numbers and winning scores through the season. Both players won a number of postseason honors. The team, with Cate's and Shafer's help, went on to win their first National Championship ever.

Tanya Cate (photo by Chad Greene)



Amy Steffel (Photo by Chad Greene)

SEPTEMBER 1996

Setter Amy Steffel took home the September Lady Mav of Month by setting a school record, two player-of-the-week awards and a 13-0 record for her team all in September. "Amy does a great job of making decisions on who to set the ball to and where the opponent's block is at," Coach Rose Shires said. Steffel earned her award on and off the court with her great playing, high GPA and volunteer work.

OCTOBER 1996

Cross Country runner Tara Biltoft has also used her sophomore year to show her stuff. She was one of UNO's top runners and captured the North Central Conference (NCC) player of the week twice in a row. Biltoft first place finish in the 5,000m at South Dakota State helped her win the October Lady May of the Month honors.

JANUARY 1997

Wrestler Pat Kelly, the first May of the Month for 1997, is a two-time NCAA Division II all-American as well as a three-time academic all-American. "Pat has really matured on the mat and as a leader. He is very intelligent and quietly

leads the team," said Assistant Coach Ron Higdon. Kelley posted strong scores all season, with a second place finish at Nationals.

FEBRUARY 1997

Senior Lady Mav basketball player Amy Breen has been playing basketball for as long as she can remember. This love has earned her two top 10 spots in the UNO record books. She has found her way into 10th place with 549 rebounds and eighth place for 1,240 career points.



Amy Breen (photo by Chad Greene)



(Left) UNO student Mark Henninger chooses to spend his spring break doing more than just sleeping. Henninger went rock climbing on Mt. Scott at the Witichta Mountain Wildlife Refuge. He went with other students from the Outdoor Venture Center during spring break. (photo by Steve Houlton)

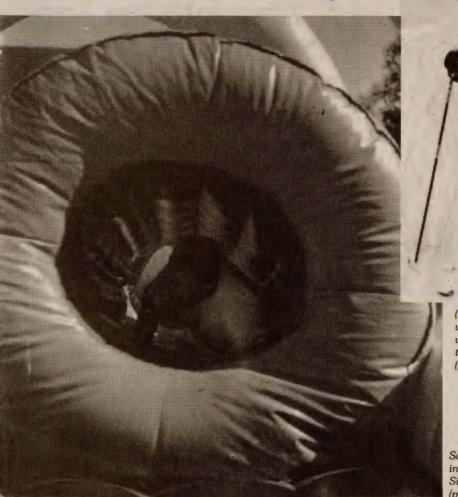


In between classes, students take advantage of the warm weather. Many students the steps of the new commons area outside the student center for studying or just relaxing. (photo by Steve Houlton)



Anthony Turner blows bubbles during the homecoming tailgate party prior to the UNO football game. Turner was crowed homecoming king later that evening. (photo by Kara Schweiss)





(Above) Elizabeth Kaplan spent her winter vacation cross country skiing with the Outdoor Venture Center at the Minnesota Zoo. (photo by Steve Houlton)

Sophomore Kent Ciser runs through an inflatable obstacle course sponsored by Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity in October. (photo by Kara Schweiss)

Top 10 Albums

Review By Ben Thompson

- 10. Pearl Jam- "No Code." Another intriguing album from one of the pioneers of grunge.
- 9. Red Red Meat-"There's A Star Above The Manger Tonight." If you want slide guitar and noise there's no need to look elsewhere.
- 8. Veruca Salt- "Eight Arms To Hold You." In between recording albums, Veruca Salt learned how to rock like they used to in the '70s.
- 7. Porno For Pyros-"Good God's Urge." Perry Farrell is still one of the greats of the psychedelic new rock.
- 6. Blind Melon-"Nico." Possibly the last look at who Blind Melon was.
- 5. Pavement- "Brighten The Corners." It's a crafty album that makes you wonder what's going on inside these Chicago boys' heads.
- 4. Hovercraft-"Akathisia." Really weird space rock sure to boil your brain.
- 3. PJ Harvey and John Parish-"Dance Hall At Louse Point." This collaboration brought Harvey back to a more raw sound.
- 2. Frogpond-"Count To Ten." My vote for best new band of 1996, and a great album to boot.
- 1. Sky Cries Mary-"Moonbathing On Sleeping Leaves." It's a beautifully crafted album that takes you anywhere you want to go.



Top Ten Omaha Concerts

Review by Ben Thompson

- 10. Kelley Deal 6000 at the Ranch Bowl on July 29. Kelley proved her sister isn't the only Breeder who can rock.
- 9. 311 and No Doubt at the Mancuso Convention Center on June 7. A 311 show in Omaha is never going to fail.
- 8. Smashing Pumpkins at the Civic Auditorium on January 15.

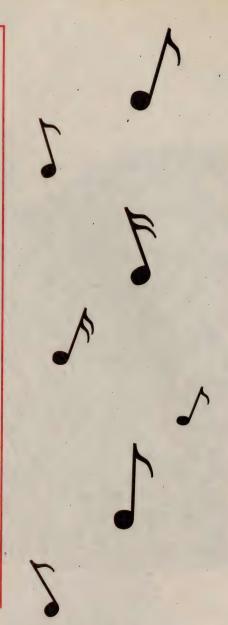
Top Ten Movies

Review by Aaron Zavitz

- 1. Sling Blade- Hail Billy Bob Thorton! For he shall be the best thing to come to Hollywood since the invention of film!
- 2. Everyone Says I Love You- Woody's back and out of tune. This musical comedy has enough charm and honesty that I want my life to be a musical and Woody Allen to direct me.
- 3. Looking for Richard-Written and directed by the man I'm so obsessed with I might start stalking him, Al Pacino. This documentary of Al filming Shakespeare's Richard III is a must for actors and theatergoers.
- 4. Fargo- This could be the sickest and funniest movie I've ever seen, side "Pulp Fiction." Joel and Ethan Coen's unique style of filming/writing should of snagged Best Picture.
- 5. Shine-Rush won Best Actor and director Scott Hicks should of got Best Director. It's an amazing story, if you can understand what the guy is saying.
 - 6. Jerry Maguire- A pretty

people movie with enough wit and humor to be an Oscar contender. Cruise has found his niche, but if I hear "show me the money" one more time, I'm going to puke.

- 7. The English Patient-Beautiful deserts, Juliette Binoche, Ralph Fiennes walking through the desert for days and still looking like a GQ model: all you need for a great movie
- 8. Trainspotting- The makers of "Shallow Grave" so cleverly gave us drugs, violence, dirty money, betrayal, drugs, sex, and even more drugs. So good I became a heroine addict.
- 9. The Rock- Maybe a strange choice but in the genre of actions movies, no other could beat the unique, slick, and tense "Rock." Entertaining and, in a strange way, inspirational.
- 10. Bound- A lesbian love affair turns into murder and money. Very stylized, well written and cleverly shot. And sadly over looked in theaters.



Not as good as the last time they were in town, but still a standing 'O.'

- 7. Semisonic at the Ranch Bowl on November 12. The band played a rousing set that pleased almost everyone in the crowd.
- 6. Social Distortion at Sokol Hall on January 26. The punks rule when they can and Social D brought them to the pit.
- 5. Superdrag at the Ranch Bowl on August 18. It was the second Superdrag show in town in the summer, and the band lit up the stage.
- 4. KISS at the Civic Auditorium on October 23 and 24. Several thousand KISS fans can't be wrong two days in a row.
- 3. Paul Westerberg at the Ranch Bowl on June 19. Paul played to new fans and old and didn't let

anyone down.

- 2. The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion at the Sokol Hall on March 12. He might not be the best musician, but he's one heck of a performer.
- 1. Summerland at Sandstone Amphitheater in Kansas City on July 27. Everclear, Spacehog, Tracy Bonham and 7 Year Bitch for a good price and a better festival.

EXTPLOTE OF CIPO

Photo by Steve Houlton



Photo by Chad Greene



Photo by Chad Greene



Photo by Chad Greene



Read what students felt about the 1996-1997 school year at UNO. They talk about important events of the past year and how they impacted

the university. And they discussed how another year impacted their lives.

By Kim Gilfillan

How the hell does this parking stuff work? Which building is Allwine Hall? Do I have the right books? Who has ever heard of "Science of Foods" anyway?

Ah, memories of that first year at UNO. I remember being a lowly freshman all too well. Wait a minute, I'm still a freshman!

I'm sure others of my class will

Uncertainty Plagues First Years In College

agree that no other year of school went by as fast as this first year of college. Of course it was about a month shorter than senior year, with Christmas and spring breaks so long you can actually take a vacation.

But when classes last only a semester, and grades consist of only three tests, the fleeting time is much more apparent to us than to upperclassmen who can't remember high school math — where one can flunk all the tests but still get a "B" by turning in homework each day.

And what about the professors that cuss all the time? Even the fact that now they're "professors" instead of just "teachers" threw me for a loop.

What about making your own schedule? I was so excited I spent three hours straight trying to decide when I wanted what.

And no bell to end or begin class! But it was a lot easier to have classes start at a normal time like 9:00, instead of something like 9:37.

I won't even talk about how big the classes are, yet how small the classrooms. I'm left-handed, and let me tell you, those slide-around desktop things suck.

I must admit I was too engulfed by the whole college experience to really be a part of the college.

I didn't rush a sorority because I didn't know anyone else doing it.

I didn't vote for president of the student body or whatever it was because I didn't know the candidates or issues, and frankly, I didn't care. (Should I really have voted for someone because they handed me a florescent pink flier outside the student center with a lollipop taped

I didn't go to homecoming because I didn't know if it was cool to go or not. (In high school it wasn't that cool.) Not to mention that I had only known my classmates about a month or so when I should've been picking out a dress.

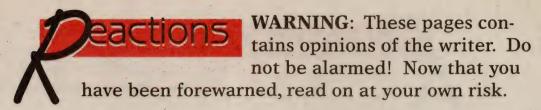
I still take the new student center for granted. Older students still scare me with horror stories of the food court in a tent or something...

I didn't think it was that big of a deal when the football team won that conference thing.

I just shrugged my shoulders when I heard the chancellor was leaving. ("We got new principals in high school all the time!")

Probably the biggest thing this year to me is that I wish the dorm idea would have been decided five years earlier.

But as I grow and mature at UNO, I know all the new things will be old hat to me as well. I'll finally know how to use the library; the differences between registrar, financial aid, and cashiering will grow clearer; and as a fifth year senior, I, too, will begin to think I'm old when I see the high school class of 2000 try to learn the rules of vulturing in the parking lot.



By Blenda Guarino

Choosing graduation announcements, getting measured for your cap and gown, picking out your class ring, all of this is part of a senior's most memorable last steps in school. But when it comes to impact, nothing impacts a senior's life more than internships and participation in school organizations.

Internships, Organizations Impact Personal & Professional Lives

This is my last year as an undergraduate at UNO. When I look back at the start of my senior year, I remember feeling unsure about myself. Did I choose the right profession? Do I have what it takes to make it in this field? Will I be able to get a job in my profession when I graduate? Will I like what I'm doing? All of those questions seemed to fade away once I did my first internship.

The on-the-job experience helped ease my fears and increase my self-confidence. I learned first hand that the methods and concepts I'm learning in class are *really* used in the "real world."

The internship also gave me excellent examples of my work to put in my portfolio. I realized I am capable of performing and being an integral part of my profession. I found I like what I will be doing when I graduate.

The internship also provided me with valuable links to jobs. I would encourage anyone to take as many internships as possible during their junior and senior years. It is like test driving a car before you buy it. You get to see if you like it before you "buy it."

Another helpful and important aspect of my senior year was getting active in school organizations. For the past year I have had the opportunity to work with the *Gateway*. Not only have I gained valuable experience, but have had the chance to experiment and work with other students. I have had wonderful learning experiences with all my writing assignments and in doing so, have better prepared myself for the working world.

One of the most rewarding experiences of my senior year was becoming a member of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA). While a member, I had the fortunate experience of working with other students on community projects and becoming a part of a group.

The friendships created here have helped me in my scholastic life, but also my professional one. Other students have given me leads on potential jobs and internships. Study groups have been formed which allows everyone the advantage of other student's knowledge.

The last project I worked on with PRSSA was our spring semester project called: "Reach Out '97." This project was a special event held at the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building for the Big Brothers, Big Sisters of the Midlands.

While working on this project I was able to utilize the skills and concepts I had been taught and the real-life experience of planning and producing an event. Working with a diverse group of people allowed me to understand and respect others. This was a great lesson in diversity.

Although I still have another two semesters before I graduate, I feel more confident in my abilities. I no longer feel insecure about myself, my profession or my abilities. I owe it all to my experience with internships and participation in school organizations.



WARNING: These pages contains opinions of the write. Do not be alarmed! Now that you have been forewarned, read on at your own risk.

By Jonathan Pelphrey

Looking back on the past year at UNO, I spy a mixed bag. A bag of sweets, it's true. But in among the goodies I can feel a few things I can't identify yet — a few question marks.

UNO has had a year of tremendous accomplishment. There've been triumphs in athletics, ambitious new plans unveiled, international recognition, and other goings-on. All very sweet. Take the national

> championship in volleyball for example.

UNO: It's Time to Excel

The Lady Mays had been a pretty good team for the last ten years or so. There was nothing wrong with them, really - winning seasons, usually, and even a trip to the regional tournament one year.

But the team decided they'd had enough

of being pretty good. It was time to excel. So they set to work. Really hard work. Harder work (and more discipline) than most of us like to think about. But they did it because they believed in their potential, and wanted to be able to say they'd absolutely been the best they could be.

In a different corner of campus, tucked in an upstairs office of Arts and Sciences Hall, is the headquarters of an international excavation operation. UNO, of all places, is heading-up an team of archeologists, researchers and students involved in excavating the premier archeological dig in Israel today — Bethsaida.

How in the world did UNO land this honor? Because, when presented with the opportunity, key people like Richard Freund, couldn't see why UNO shouldn't take the lead. It's true that UNO does not really have an archeology department, but why should that get in our way? There's

no good reason why UNO shouldn't be an international name.

This year has also seen the final coming-together of a new college. The College of Information Science and Technology is not just any college, though. It is distinctly different from anything any other university in the region can offer. (Not to mention that we finally have something that UN-Lincoln didn't take first.)

The college did not just happen, though. It's the result of hard work by some farsighted people who thought UNO, not UNL, could fill this role well. It's the result of some serious arm-twisting in the city, county and state bureaucracies to find a home for the college. It's the result of the work of people who think UNO can go places.

And that's really what it comes down to. This year should show us that UNO can, indeed, go places. But it comes down to a few decisions. And that's where the questions come in the unidentified items in the grab bag.

Can UNO, like her volleyball team, say, "It's time to excel." Can she make the choice to work hard enough, long enough, and single-mindedly enough to go where she wants to go?

Can UNO drop her inferiority complex? Can she forget about her current shortcomings and say, like the coordinators for Bethsaida, "Why not UNO?"

Can UNO step out of the shadow of that other school in Lincoln? Will she have the foresight and determination to be an independent and thriving university of her own?

This is the time for us to ask these questions. Chancellor Del Weber is leaving, and someone new will step in sometime this summer. The people who make up UNO have choices to make.

Welcome

TO THE UNO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Congratulations to the 1997 graduates of the University of Nebraska at Omaha; your hard work and perseverance has earned you a degree in which you can take great pride. The UNO Alumni Association, an organization comprised of more than 70,000 of your fellow graduates, welcomes you as its

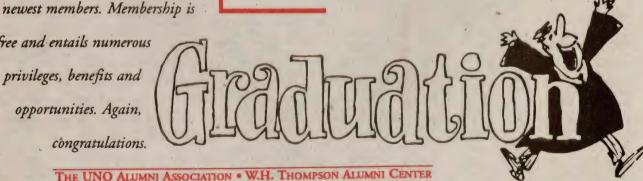
free and entails numerous privileges, benefits and opportunities. Again, congratulations.

WILLIAM H. THOMPSON

UNO Alumni Association was founded June 6, 1913, by the university's first graduating class of 11 students. The purpose of the organization, as chartered by that first class, is to "concentrate the divided efforts of the graduates into one unit in order to work more proficiently for the upbuilding of

the school and to promote, as far as possible, the activities of the school." There are no dues and the association is funded in large part by donations from alumni, friends and corporations to the UNO

Alumni Fund. The association is housed on the northwest corner of the campus in the William H. Thompson Alumni Center, named after a former UNO alum, professor and dean.



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Photo by Chad Greene

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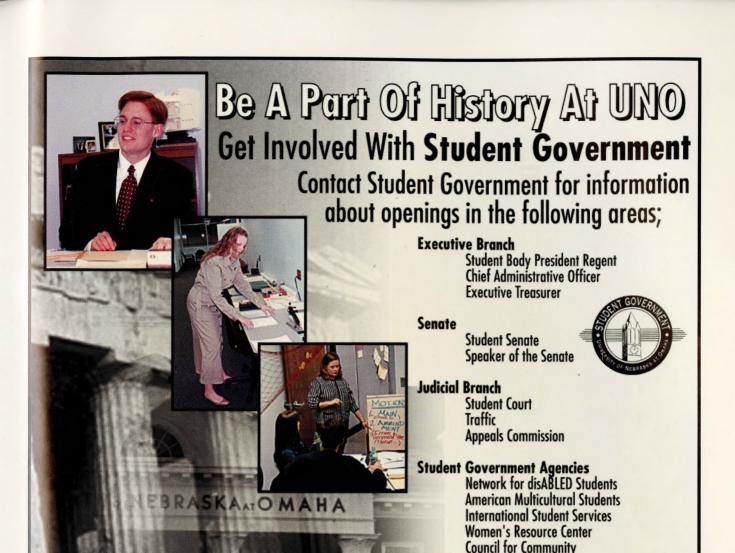
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